

# Gardening

## Week Two





# Where to Buy Seeds and Plants

## In Orangeburg:

Lowes

Orangeburg Milling

Tractor Supply

## Other Places:

Dollar Tree

Walmart

Grocery Stores

## Online Orders:

Seed Savers Exchange

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds

[rareseeds.com](http://rareseeds.com)

# Seed Starters vs Plants

## Seed Starters

### Pro

Cheaper

Easier to Over Seed

You know where the seeds come from

### Con

Need a lot to get started

More steps to follow

More ways to get something wrong

## Plants

### Pro

Quicker time to harvest

Mostly past the fragile stages

You know how many you are committing to

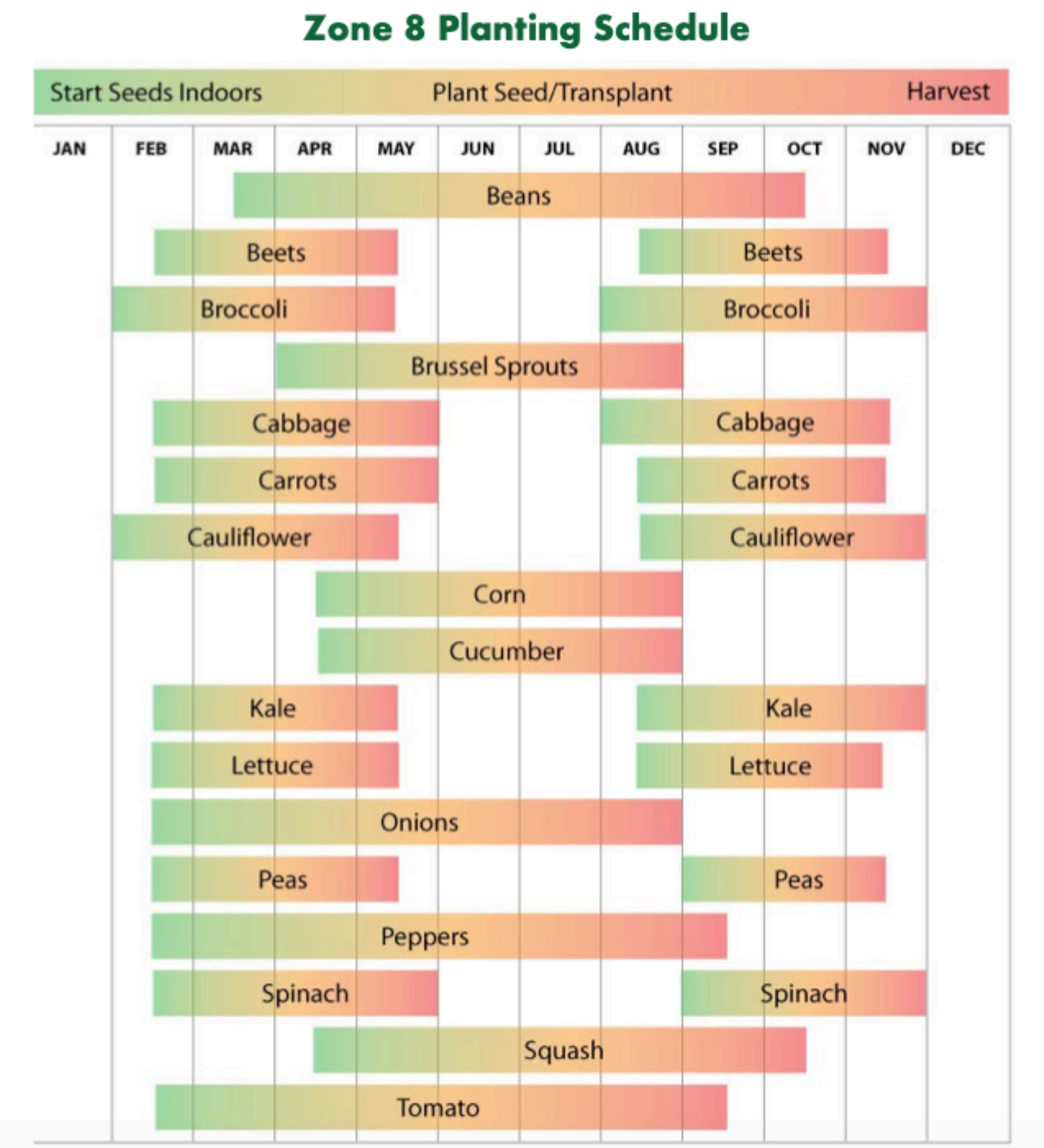
### Con

Costly

Can't always count on collecting the seeds for next season

Don't know what is already sprayed on them

# What to Start as Seeds and When



Growing from  
April 1st  
to  
December 1st



# How to Start Seeds to Plant

**Step 1: Gather your seeds and supplies.**

- Seeds
- Seed starting pots or seed starting trays (I like using cell inserts, as shown)
- Plant markers
- Seed starting mix (homemade or store-bought)
- Seed starting tray with humidity dome
- Spray bottle or squirt bottle filled with water





# How to Start Seeds to Plant

**Step 2: Fill your pots or trays with seed starting mix.**

- Dump your seed starting mix into a large tub or bucket, pour in a generous amount of water, and stir it up with your hands or a trowel.
- As the seed starting mix starts to absorb the moisture, add more water as needed. (This will take several minutes, as peat-based seed starting mixes are slow to absorb.) You want the mix to be uniformly damp, like wet sand.
- Fill your pots or trays with this pre-moistened seed starting mix.





# How to Start Seeds to Plant

## Step 3: Sow your seeds.

- Place two to four seeds (per pot) on the surface of the seed starting mix, and gently press the seeds down with your fingers so they're nestled in nicely.



# How to Start Seeds to Plant

**Step 4: Label your newly planted seeds.**

- Label each pot. Trust me, you will never remember what you planted where, as most seedlings look the same at birth.





# How to Start Seeds to Plant

**Step 5: Keep your seeds moist and warm.**

- **Mist your seeds with water.**



**Step 6: Hardening off your seeds.**

- **Once there is enough growth to plant in the ground:**
- **Take outside in the evening for 4-6 nights, bringing them in before going to bed**

# What to Buy as Plants

**Sweet Potatoes**

**Celery**

**Tomatoes**

**Eggplant**

**Artichokes**

**Peppers**

**Asparagus**

**Rhubarb**

A benefit of transplanting each of those crops above is that they all tolerate root disturbance. Meaning that if you have two or more plants growing in the same container you can carefully separate them at the roots and plant them all.

# Transplants That Don't Tolerate Root Disturbance

**Beans (lima)**

**Beans (snap)**

**Corn, sweet**

**Cucumbers**

**Dill**

**Melons, Cantaloupe, Honeydew**

**Peas (shelling)**

**Peas (snap)**

**Squash**

**Pumpkins**

**Watermelon**



Check This Out